

Amendments to the Specification

On page 10,

Please amend the penultimate complete paragraph, beginning on line 19, as indicated below:

[79] As shown in Figure 3, a service scheduling unit according to an embodiment of the present invention establishes a data channel connection with one end of a cross-connecting unit in a digital communication system which is typically of SDHTDM (such as ~~SDH/SONET, Synchronous Optical Network~~) or another type of transmission unit of OTN, and performs service scheduling for packet services of a data service access processing unit and a line unit which establish a data channel connection with the other end of the cross-connecting unit, and the service scheduling unit comprises the following modules.

On page 11,

Please amend the last complete paragraph, beginning on line 20, as indicated below:

[88] The mapping/de-mapping module is used to mainly load a data frame to a virtual container or virtual container group or extract a data frame from the virtual container or the virtual container group. Virtual container group refers to several virtual containers bound together through an adjacent or virtual concatenation. According to the embodiment of the present invention, the mapping/de-mapping module of the service scheduling unit supports virtual containers or virtual container group with various granularities, so as to perform scheduling between services of the virtual containers or the virtual container group with different granularities. For example, there are, but not limited to, VC12, VC3, VC4 (VCn: Virtual Container n, a container of level n) for the SDHTDM (such as ~~SDH/SONET~~, and there are, but not limited to, VT1.5 (Virtual Tributary 1.5, a virtual tributary of level 1.5), STS-1, STS-3C (STS-n: Synchronous Transport Signal level n) for a SONET, etc. Figure 4 is a block diagram of an internal structure of a mapping/de-mapping module according to the embodiment of the present invention, and the mapping/de-mapping module comprises a selection module, and also comprises a VC4 mapping/de-mapping and virtual concatenation processing circuit, a TU3 (Tributary Unit 3) pointer processing circuit, a VC3 mapping/de-mapping and virtual concatenation processing

circuit, a TU12 (Tributary Unit 12) pointer processing circuit and a VC 12 mapping/de-mapping and virtual concatenation processing circuit connected sequentially.

On page 14,

Please amend the penultimate complete paragraph, beginning on line 20, as indicated below:

[97] Figure ~~[[7]]~~8 is a schematic diagram of another packet service scheduling method according to an embodiment of the present invention. As shown in the figure, a locally-accessing data service can be forwarded from a data service access processing unit to a service scheduling unit directly.

On page 17,

Please insert the following paragraph, between paragraphs 106 and 107:

[107] Although in the embodiments of the present invention, SDH, OTN or SONET is taken as an example of a digital communication system, the digital communication system is not limited to SDH, OTN or SONET, rather, it can be any digital communication system which can provide TDM services as would be readily understood by those skilled in the art.

Please renumber original paragraph 107 as paragraph 108:

~~{107}~~ [108] While the present invention has been illustrated and described with reference to some preferred embodiment thereof, it will be apparent to those skilled in the art that it may be possible to make various modifications of the present invention without departing the scope thereof.